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Outside the rather narrow range of our own possible attention, social control depends upon devising standards of living and methods of audit by which the acts of public officials and industrial directors are measured. We cannot ourselves inspire or guide all these acts, as the mystical democrat has always imagined. But we can steadily increase our real control over these acts by insisting that all of them shall be plainly recorded, and their results objectively measured. I should say, perhaps, that we can progressively hope to insist. For the working out of such standards and of such audits has only begun.

A critique of this kind is needed in political science and is just as useful to economics or to sociology, and for that matter to business, for the limitations to attention and the inaccuracies of the pictures in our minds and the clutch of the stereotypes which we judge are just as applicable to business and to making a living as to government. One would be apt to feel after reading this book that government must perforce be the weakest of institutions unless he reflects at the same time that this same weakness of human nature and human knowledge applies to all institutions.

In addition to a scientific report of all the facts as a basis for public opinion the author urges that the social scientists take a larger part in directing social activities. He thinks it high time that the social scientists cease merely to chew over and over the cuds provided for them by others.

We have had no advance in political philosophy since the days of John Locke. To the mind of the reviewer this book is the first contribution to a new political philosophy based on a scientific knowledge of the innate urges within individuals and on the essential facts as to the limits of human attention, together with conclusive methods of tying up social judgments with current social facts and forces.

CLYDE L. KING.

G. STANLEY HALL, PH.D., LL.D. *Senescence*. Pp. xxvi, 518. Price, \$5.00. New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1922.

The modern intellectual world is becoming more and more insistent in its demands for facts to substantiate any theory which attempts to explain the controversial questions confronting mankind. Certainly the

problems of old age and death are prodigious enough even in our day to call forth the most Herculean of mental efforts to establish conviction. "The Thinker" who would probe into this subject from every view point should be more than scholar; he must himself have lived richly through a wide span of years in order to appreciate the feelings, aspirations, disappointments and philosophies of those who have spoken. Certainly, the mental processes as well as spiritual insight of those who are older becomes of vital significance in giving perspective to human values. So much our present-day middle-age group should be willing to concede to those older scientists who in their younger days struggled heroically with newer evolving scientific concepts often under the most critical and adverse of conditions. In their older days these stalwarts are bringing each, not his science only, but *all* science into perspective. Analysis is no more to vie with synthesis in its outlook upon life's problems. The past no longer spurns the whole. Perspective is beginning to be insisted upon.

The book *Senescence* by G. Stanley Hall, rich in scholarship and personal experience, is a comprehensive review of the sum of human knowledge on this subject, "in order to show how the ignorant and the learned, the child, the adult, and the old, savage and civilized man, pagans and Christians, the ancient and the modern world, the representatives of the various sciences and different individuals, have viewed these problems."

The chief thesis of his book is that old age has a function in the world that we who are older have not yet risen to and which is of the utmost importance. Far greater, in fact, in the present stage of the world than ever before, and "that this new and culminating service can only be seen and prepared for by first realizing what ripe and normal age really is, means, can, should and now must do, if our race is ever to achieve its true goal." It is also written to enable those of middle age and "for whom the shadows have just begun to lengthen" to be better fitted to meet old age when it overtakes them.

The various chapter headings herein cited are suggestive of the exhaustless scientific method employed in getting at the concepts underlying his treatise: "The History of Old Age;" "Literature By and On the

Aged;" "Statistics of Old Age and Its Care;" "Medical Views and Treatment of Old Age;" "The Contributions of Biology and Physiology." In "The Youth of Old Age" is developed the psychology involved at the turn of the tide of life. Special stress is laid upon the importance of work accomplished before and after forty.

The functioning process of old minds with their possible good as well as evil influence upon world-wide questions of political and economic significance, is illustrative of many other paragraphs than the one cited.

The World War was not primarily a young man's war, for most of them were sent by their elders and met their death that the influence of the latter might be augmented. Men may be made senile by their years without growing wise. Thus the world is without true leaders in this hour of its greatest need till we wonder whether a few score funerals of those in power would not be our greatest boon. A psychological senility that neither learns nor forgets is always a menace and a check instead of being, as true old age should be, a guide in emergencies. Thus we have not grown old aright and are paralyzed by a wisdom that is obsolete or barnaced by prejudice.

The thoughts which the earnest reader of this book will carry away is the necessity of a philosophical type of thinking which should pervade the solution of individual and national problems. Old age becomes philosophical in a masterly sense if the recapitulatory processes of individual unfoldment have been orderly and expressive. Hope for the orderly and wise administration of life's affairs rests upon the ability of

society to utilize the richness of individual consciousness which the changing years divest. All students of human nature will feel that this text is the gift of a mature mind to those who would struggle wisely to meet the problems of advancing age.

HERBERT W. HESS.

TUMULTY, JOSEPH P. *Woodrow Wilson as I Know Him*. Pp. xvi, 553. Price, \$5.00. Garden City, New York: Doubleday Page and Company, 1921.

This is an enticing account in story form of the relations between Joseph P. Tumulty and his hero statesman, Woodrow Wilson. As a first hand account of many of the stirring events of the past fifteen years this book is of inestimable value. Among the chapters of special historic interest are those devoted to: "Colonel Roosevelt and General Wood;" "Wilson the Warrior;" "Germany Capitulates;" "The Treaty Fight;" "The Western Trip;" "Reservations." The chapter that will live long is the one on "Wilson, The Human Being."

The historian of the future will no doubt give to Woodrow Wilson a rank as statesman equal to that of the greatest statesmen of all times. If this be done, then his opponents must be pictured as bickering partisans, narrow of vision and uninformed as to the true economic and social forces at work in the modern world. This book will prove useful as a current portrayal of pertinent human facts and sentiments.